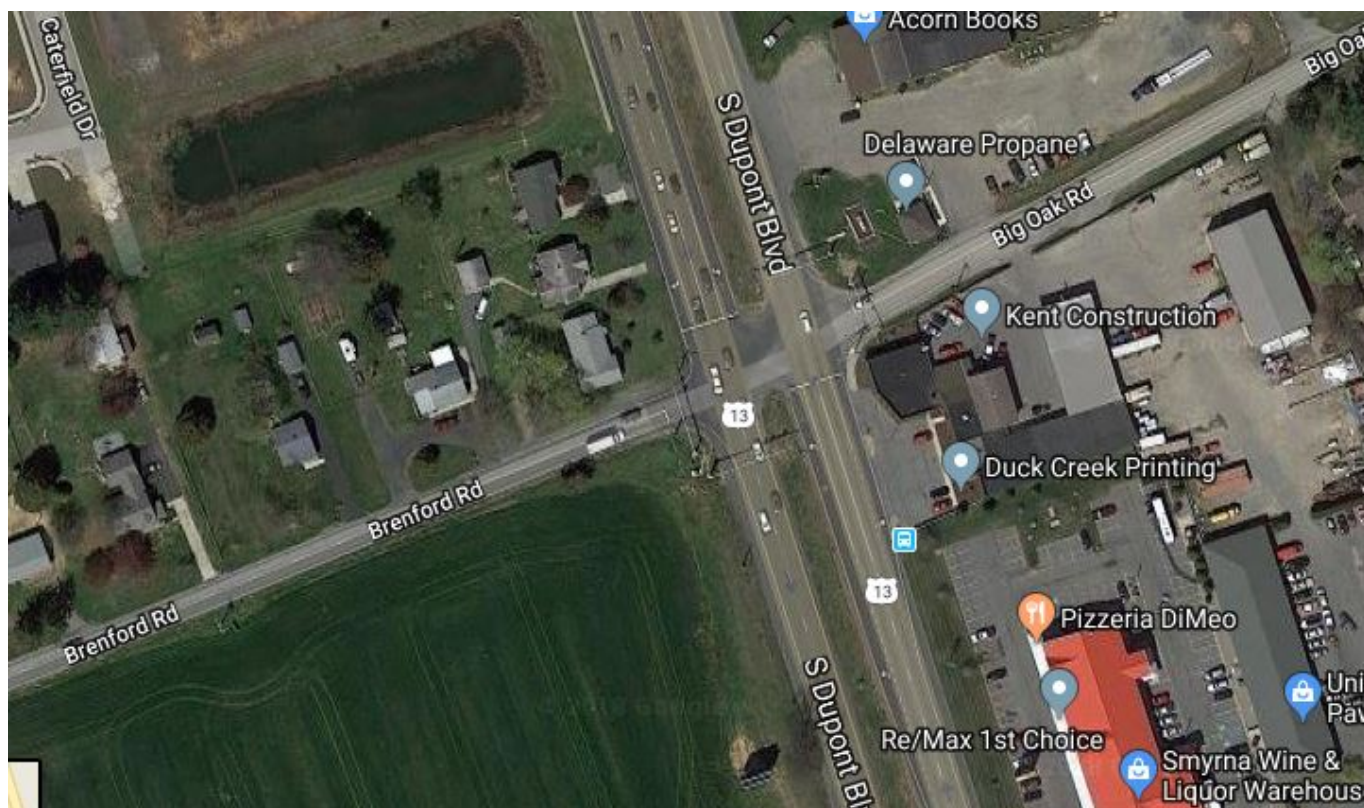


# **\*Update\*** Troopers Investigating Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash-Smyrna



**Smyrna**— The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit is investigating a fatal crash that occurred earlier this morning.

The preliminary investigation has determined that the incident occurred at approximately 6:00 a.m. on Monday, May 7, 2018, as an International tractor trailer pulling a loaded trailer, was attempting to make a right turn from South Dupont Boulevard (US 13) onto westbound Brenford Road. Due to the length of the trailer, the operator had to complete the right turn from the right lane of US 13, outside of the right turn lane. A 2011 Nissan Versa was approaching the tractor trailer from the rear, and began to pass the tractor trailer by entering into the dedicated right turn lane. The Versa struck the tractor trailer on its left side with its right front

bumper. The impact caused the Versa to be redirected into a steel light pole, and then into another larger steel light pole. Following the impact with the larger steel light pole, the Versa overturned onto its right side for its final resting place. The tractor trailer came to rest in the intersection of US 13 and Brenford Road.

The operator of the Versa, identified as 24-year-old **Rahvey Vails** of Clayton was wearing her seatbelt and was pronounced dead on scene by EMS. Impairment on her behalf is unknown at this time.

The operator of the tractor trailer, a 73-year-old man from Maryland, was wearing his seatbelt and did not sustain any injuries as a result of this crash. Impairment does not appear to be a factor on his behalf.

This crash remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit.

US 13 at the intersection with Brenford Road was closed for approximately 5 hours while the investigation was completed and the roadway was cleared.

Click on link for original release: [\\*TRAFFIC ADVISORY\\* S. Dupont Blvd \(RT 13\) at Brenford Road Closed Due to Crash-Smyrna](#)

*If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at [debra.reed@delaware.gov](mailto:debra.reed@delaware.gov).*

You can follow the Delaware State Police by clicking on:

[Delaware State Police Official Web Site](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Nextdoor](#)

Please tell us how we're doing via our [Citizen Satisfaction Survey](#).

*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal  
Melissa Jaffe*

Released: 050718 1455

-End-